

# Commitments from Federal Political Parties for The Future Of CBC/Radio-Canada

## CMG Proposals for Adequate Funding and True Independence for CBC/Radio-Canada

1. Reverse the \$115-million Deficit Reduction Action Plan (DRAP) cut to CBC.
2. Increase CBC's funding to about half the average of what other developed countries invest in their public broadcaster - \$43.5 per capita annually over the next five years, and adjust CBC's parliamentary appropriation for inflation.
3. Ask the CRTC to establish a fund that is dedicated to programming by public service media (CBC, TVO, APTN, Tfo, community media) as well as independent producers on all platforms that meet the diverse and evolving programming needs of Canadians.
4. Cancel Division 17 of omnibus budget Bill C-60 in the interest of our country and of our reputation as a mature democracy - to remove the possibility of governmental interference in CBC's day-to-day operations.
5. Protect CBC/Radio-Canada's independence by instituting a public mechanism for selecting the national public broadcaster's Board and CEO.



Canadian Media Guild  
La Guilde canadienne des médias  
CWA/SCA CANADA

## Conservative Party Commitments:

*Meeting refused*

*No commitments announced for the future of CBC*

## Green Party Commitments:

- ▶ Reverse the \$115 million cut to CBC and cuts to supertime news and local programming
- ▶ Provide predictable, reliable, long-term base funding for the CBC so it can continue to provide quality Canadian content television and radio programming in both official languages to all Canadians
- ▶ Engage in a national dialogue to support the long-term financial independence of the CBC
- ▶ Restore CBC international short-wave service
- ▶ Reverse the CBC application and CRTC approval for commercial advertising on CBC Radio 2 and restore funding, so it can return to being ad-free
- ▶ Ensure that the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) reserves more bandwidth for independent and nonprofit stations
- ▶ Repeal Division 17 of Bill C-60 to prevent federal government interference in CBC labour negotiations
- ▶ Establish arm's length committee made up of various diverse stakeholders representative of Canadian society to appoint CEO and Board of Directors of CBC, rather than have political party in power appointing heads of CBC, to ensure its independence from political influence

### Green Party Quote

*"We know we need the CBC, we know the best way to maintain a healthy public broadcaster is to make sure there is predictable funding. Beyond that you want to have an independence in choosing who is the CEO and who are the Board of Directors, and you need to make sure that the CBC never need fear political repercussions for good, solid newscasts."*  
**Green Party leader, Elizabeth May, 2015**

### Green Party Petition

The CBC is under threat:  
<http://www.greenparty.ca/en/we-love-cbc>

*The Prime Minister has openly questioned the journalistic integrity of our Public Broadcaster, and by repeatedly slashing the CBC's operating budget, has shown he is not interested in seeing one of our nation's most important cultural institutions prosper.*

## Liberal Commitments:

- ▶ Reverse the \$115-million cuts made to CBC's budget and re-invest in CBC with stable and predictable multi-year funding
- ▶ Review the appointment procedure for CBC Board Directors and CEO to ensure their independence and competence
- ▶ Restore the CBC's labour relations administrative autonomy
- ▶ Establish a 5-year plan Protocol in consultation with CBC, outlining the objectives the public broadcaster is expected to achieve with its funding
- ▶ Re-invest in CBC
- ▶ Ensure Canadian content is prominent and diverse on CBC
- ▶ Involve the CRTC and the Auditor General in ensuring CBC's accountability to taxpayers
- ▶ Re-examine the Broadcasting Act for the 21st century

### Liberal Quote

*"I know that the Canada that we need to build needs a strong and independent CBC."*  
**Liberal leader, Justin Trudeau, 2015**

### Liberal Petition

Hands Off our CBC:  
<https://www.liberal.ca/petitions/stop-the-harper-conservative-cbc-budget-cuts/>

(Ne touchez pas à notre SRC:  
<https://www.liberal.ca/fr/petition/arretez-les-coupires-budgetaires-infligees-a-la-src/>)

*Speak out against the devastating Conservative cuts to our cherished public broadcaster*

### More

<https://www.liberal.ca/conservative-government-forces-cuts-cbcradiocanada/>

Vision de Justin Trudeau et du Parti libéral pour l'avenir de Radio-Canada :  
<http://stephanedion.liberal.ca/articles/ici-sera-radiocanada-la-vision-librale/>

## NDP Commitments:

- ▶ Protect CBC/Radio Canada's role as our national broadcaster and as a pillar of our cultural sector
- ▶ Cancel the \$115 million in cuts announced in the 2012 budget;
- ▶ Guarantee stable, predictable, multi-year financing to protect CBC/ Radio-Canada from advertising market fluctuations and to help ensure its editorial independence from government
- ▶ Set up an independent and objective nomination process to get the best Canadians for the jobs of CBC president and board of directors
- ▶ Stop the sale of the CBC Broadcasting Centre in Toronto
- ▶ Maintain CBC/Radio-Canada's independence from the government by cancelling Division 17 of 2013 Omnibus Budget Bill C-60

### NDP Quote

*"We've hit the point now, where there's been a critical mass of cuts to the CBC which will make it impossible to do all the things that we are asking it to do. It's the only institution that allows us to tell our stories to each other."*  
**NDP leader, Tom Mulcair, 2015**

### NDP Petitions

Stand up for the CBC:  
<http://petition.ndp.ca/stand-up-for-the-CBC>

*We call on the Government of Canada to end these attacks against the CBC and guarantee stable, adequate, multi-year financing for our public broadcaster to allow the CBC to live up to its mandate from coast to coast to coast.*

Protect our institutions:  
<http://petition.ndp.ca/institutions>

*We call on the Government of Canada to reject these changes and allow Canada's Crown corporations to negotiate the terms and conditions of employment for union and non-union workers.*

### More

[http://www.ndp.ca/sites/default/files/news/20150122-cbc-radcan-backgrounder\\_en.pdf](http://www.ndp.ca/sites/default/files/news/20150122-cbc-radcan-backgrounder_en.pdf)